



NEWS RELEASE

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Contra Costa Man Arrested for Repeated Violations of the Automotive Repair Act

RICHMOND – A California Department of Consumer Affairs, Bureau of Automotive Repair (DCA/BAR) request to initiate criminal proceedings has resulted in the arrest of a Richmond man for operating an automotive repair business without a valid Automotive Repair Dealer (ARD) registration.

Clarence G. Williams was taken into custody by officers of the Contra Costa District Attorney's office April 13th for violations of the Automotive Repair Act.

This is not the first time Williams has found himself in trouble with the Bureau. In October 1998 he was sentenced to 10 days in jail, two years probation and fined for operating an automotive repair business without a valid ARD registration. In 2000 Williams was prosecuted for the same offense and sentenced to 40 days in jail. Earlier this year BAR received information that Williams was continuing to operate without a valid ARD registration, and that information prompted DCA/BAR to seek disciplinary action by the office of the District Attorney.

"This man has repeatedly disregarded the state's laws and regulations as they apply to the automotive repair industry," said DCA Director Charlene Zettel. "Such disregard for the law should be met with swift action to eliminate bad operators and protect consumers."

Any consumer who has a problem with an auto repair facility can file a complaint with the Department of Consumer Affairs, Bureau of Automotive Repair online at www.autorepair.ca.gov (Scroll down to "How to File a Complaint.") For additional information about filing a complaint call 1-800-952-5210.

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